

SPIDER-MAN

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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®



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BUT IT CAN'T
BE YOU WHO'VE
TURNED
AGAINST ME!
IT CAN'T
BE!!

BUT IT IS!
FOR THE
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GOBLIN
LIVES
AGAIN!**

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ROSS ANDRU...ARTIST
FRANK GIACOLA...INKERS
ARTIE SIMKE...LETTERER
L. LESSMANN...COLORIST
ROY THOMAS...EDITOR

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Here's how:

1. On the opposite page are pictures of Big Jim's equipment and accessories. Along with the picture is a sentence or two telling you about the toy. But there's a word missing from the sentence.
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Enter as often as you wish, but each entry must be mailed in a separate envelope, postmarked by January 31, 1975, and received by February 15, 1975. No substitutions for prizes. The winner will be notified by registered mail.

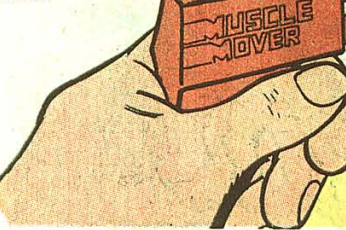
To obtain the winner's name, send a stamped, self addressed envelope to:
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CITY	STATE														
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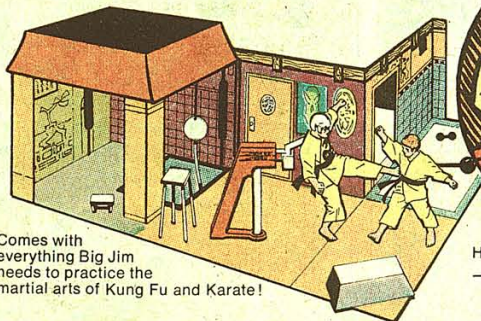
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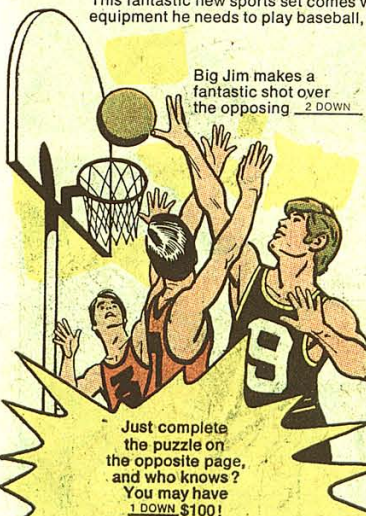
Comes with everything Big Jim needs to practice the martial arts of Kung Fu and Karate!



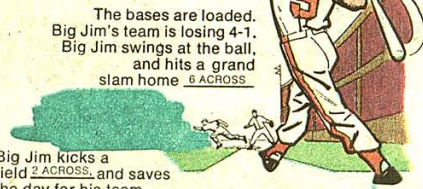
Here we see Big Jim about to break a 12 ACROSS with a Karate chop.

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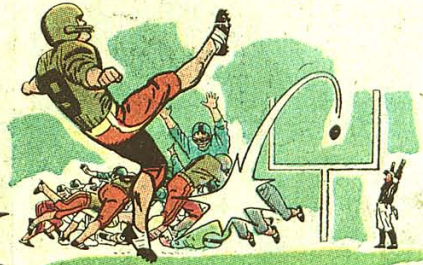


Big Jim makes a fantastic shot over the opposing 2 DOWN

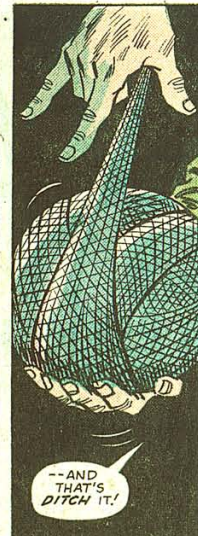


The bases are loaded. Big Jim's team is losing 4-1. Big Jim swings at the ball, and hits a grand slam home 6 ACROSS

Big Jim kicks a field 2 ACROSS, and saves the day for his team.



Just complete the puzzle on the opposite page, and who knows? You may have 1 DOWN \$100!



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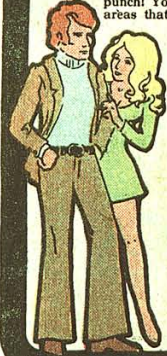
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THE SPIDER'S WEB

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO
THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, SIXTH FLOOR 575 MADISON AV., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

Dear Gerry and Johnny,

I address this letter to both of you rather than to whoever is answering the letters section today, because I have many nice things to say about SPIDER-MAN #132, and since everybody likes to hear nice things, maybe whoever is doing the letters pages will show or tell you how I feel.

First off, to see John Romita doing SPIDER-MAN again truly made me feel at home with the book for the first time in months. Ross Andru is good, don't get me wrong; but SPIDER-MAN was always a Lee/Thomas/Romita production.

And a heartfelt apology to Mr. Gerry Conway, who I thought was writing out of his armpit when he killed off Gwen Stacy. SPIDER-MAN is known for being a "relevant" book (and so was even before relevance became the "in" thing to do to a superhero), therefore human, and therefore somewhat depressing. But even depression can get tiring, so you need some ray of sunlight in the dank, cold gloom of life. Gwen was it. Gwen was removed. Darkness. Wow, was there darkness! But now Liz Allen returns...and I bet Gerry planned it this way all along!

I should have had faith. It would have been easier than eating my own words. They sit like a rock.

I am really tremendously pleased, and I really think you will get almost one hundred per cent positive reaction to this. And, hey, in case you haven't guessed...you deserve it.

Steve Clement
15 Campbell Terr.
Pawtucket, R.I. 02860

Thanks, Steve, from Gerry, John, Roy...and whoever's answering the letters this ish.

Gerry did indeed have Liz Allen's dramatic re entry into Peter Parker's life planned long in advance. But we strongly advise that you and the rest of Marveldom Assembled not fall into the trap of considering Liz just a replacement for Gwen. The role she will play in Pete's life, the relationship that may (or may not) develop between them is going to be very different. And besides, we still have a surprise or three to spring on you in the way of new and old characters, male and female, popping onto the scene.

In other words, as we've said so many times before, don't take anything for granted when it comes to SPIDER-MAN.

Dear Marvel Men and Women,

After reading SPIDER-MAN #132, I felt I had to write and express my thoughts. First of all, it was a fine story, and the artwork was excellent. Good to see that John Romita touch. Ross Andru does a very good job; but when it comes to Spider-Man, Romita is king.

As I said, the story was fine...a lot of action, a look into Peter Parker's personal life, a favorite villain. But (sorry) early in the story, you have Spidey saying he's finally got things worked out with Aunt May...yet at the end of #131, Aunt May is fainting in an airplane as Spider-Man is trying to explain things. Now, I know we're supposed to use our imaginations a little, but don't you think this is a matter that should have been illustrated? I mean, it's a pretty big letdown for a bride to see her future husband blown up (especially as old a bride as Aunt May). How in the world did Spidey get things worked out?

Mark Zak
W. Seneca, N.Y.

We would certainly have liked to have shown Spidey's nerve-racking attempt to explain to Aunt May that her intended groom was a mean, nasty villain (Dr. Octopus) and deserved to be consumed in a nuclear holocaust...but, Mark, what would you have had us cut from SPIDEY #132 in order to give you that scene? Unfortunately, we have only a limited amount of space to work with each issue, and what with Pete's re-introduction to Liz Allen and the Molten Man's bursting into the picture, there just wasn't room to show what went on between Pete and his dotting aunt.

That's one reason we're experimenting with our new giant-size four-color titles, each of which features twenty-five to thirty pages of new story material. With almost double the number of pages, we can delve into such matters as this one with a wee bit more depth.

Dear Bullpen,

Last time I saw Liz Allen was back in ish #30, and here she is again in SPIDEY #132. However, a few things were a bit twisted, such as on page ten, where a caption reads, "a high school student (Peter Parker) with a crush on a dazzling blond (Liz)." As I remember, Liz was always chasing after Pete. And how did Mary Jane recognize Liz? I only remember those two meeting once, when Aunt May introduced Liz and Betty Brant to Mary Jane back in ish #25.



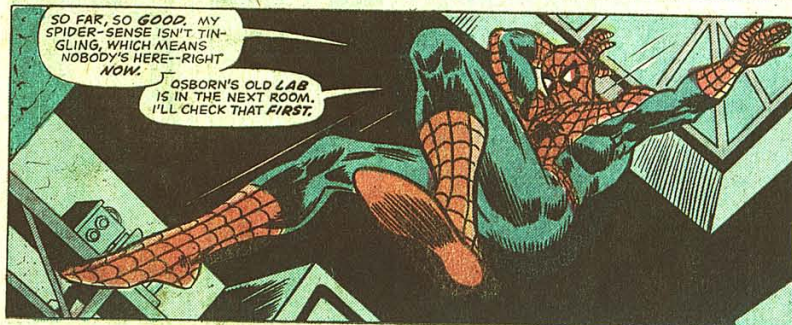
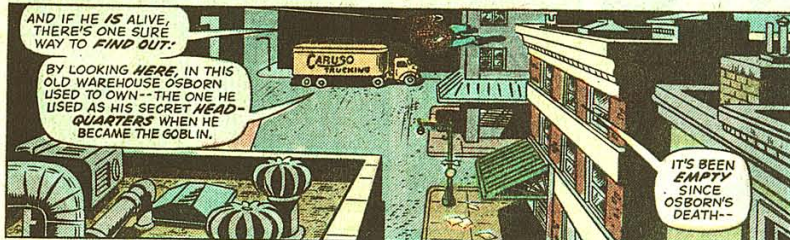
Unless M.J. has an uncanny memory for faces and Pete had a sudden change of heart about Liz (Betty was his girlfriend back in high school), I'll be expecting my no-prize in the mail.

Charles Hamada
909 Santa Fe Ave.
Albany, Ca. 94706

Actually, Charles, we're both right on the matter of Pete and Liz's relationship back in high school. Before Peter met Betty Brant he did have a crush on Liz, and at that time, Liz wanted nothing at all to do with him. She was more or less going with Flash Thompson then.

Later, when Betty and Pete had met and were dating, Pete still was attracted to Liz at various times. Oddly enough, when

LETTERS PAGE CONTINUED ON PAGE 32





ONE HURRIED, BUT THOROUGH, EXAMINATION LATER...

NOTHING SEEMS TO BE MISSING-- BUT THAT DOESN'T PROVE A THING.

WHOEVER COULD BE USING THIS PLACE COULD ALSO HAVE BOUGHT NEW SUPPLIES-- SUCH AS THAT GADGET USED IN THE BOMB IN MY APARTMENT!

STILL...

THE WHOLE WAREHOUSE IS COVERED WITH DUST AN INCH THICK, AND THERE'S NO SIGN OF A FOOTPRINT ANYWHERE OTHER THAN MY OWN...

...GUESS I WAS WRONG, AFTER ALL.



WHEN YOU COME DOWN TO IT, ANYBODY COULD HAVE PLANTED THAT EXPLOSIVE.

AS PETER PARKER, I GET A FAIR SHARE OF HASSLES BECAUSE OF THE NEWS PHOTOS I SELL TO JAMESON FOR THE DAILY BUGLE.

MAYBE ONE OF THE GUYS I PHOTOGRAPHED DIDN'T LIKE HIS PICTURE, AND--



WAIT A MINUTE!



I'M A BONA FIDE DUNCE! A FIRST-CLASS DUNCE!

SURE, THIS PLACE IS COVERED WITH DUST--

--BUT IS IT REAL?



PROP MEN IN MOVIES AND THE STAGE USE A SPECIAL SPRAY TO CREATE A DUST EFFECT, AND IT'S FAIRLY CONVINCING, TOO--TO EVERY SENSE BUT ONE--



--TASTE!

BLECH! IT'S LIKE DRY SOAP-- AS FAKE AS THE PROVERBIAL THREE DOLLAR BILL!



SPIDEY, YOU'RE A GENIUS.



NOT THE HAPPIEST GUY IN THE WORLD AT THE MOMENT-- BUT A GENIUS, NONE-THELESS!



THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO NOW BUT WAIT.

SOONER OR LATER, HE'S BOUND TO SHOW UP, AND WHEN HE DOES--

--I'LL BE TUCKED OUT OF SIGHT IN TYPICAL SPIDEY FASHION.

I WISH I WAS AS GLAD ABOUT ALL THIS AS I'M TRYING TO SOUND, THOUGH.



BECAUSE, IF WHAT I SUSPECT IS TRUE...I'M ON THE VERGE OF BECOMING BENEDICT ARNOLD NUMBER TWO!



A FEW MINUTES BECOME HOURS, AS MINUTES DO, AND THE HOURS PASS SLOWLY AS HOURS DO.



AFTER A TIME, THE SUN SETS AND THE MOON RISES.

AND STILL, SPIDER-MAN REMAINS ALONE.

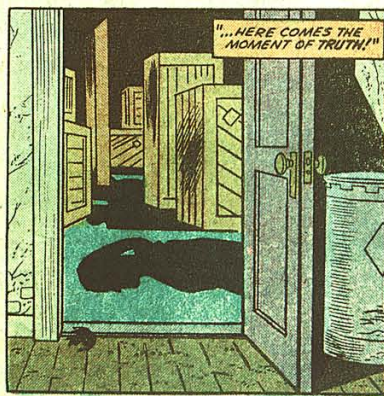


UNTIL, AS THE MOON REACHES ITS ZENITH OVER THE GRUBBY STREETS OF MANHATTAN...

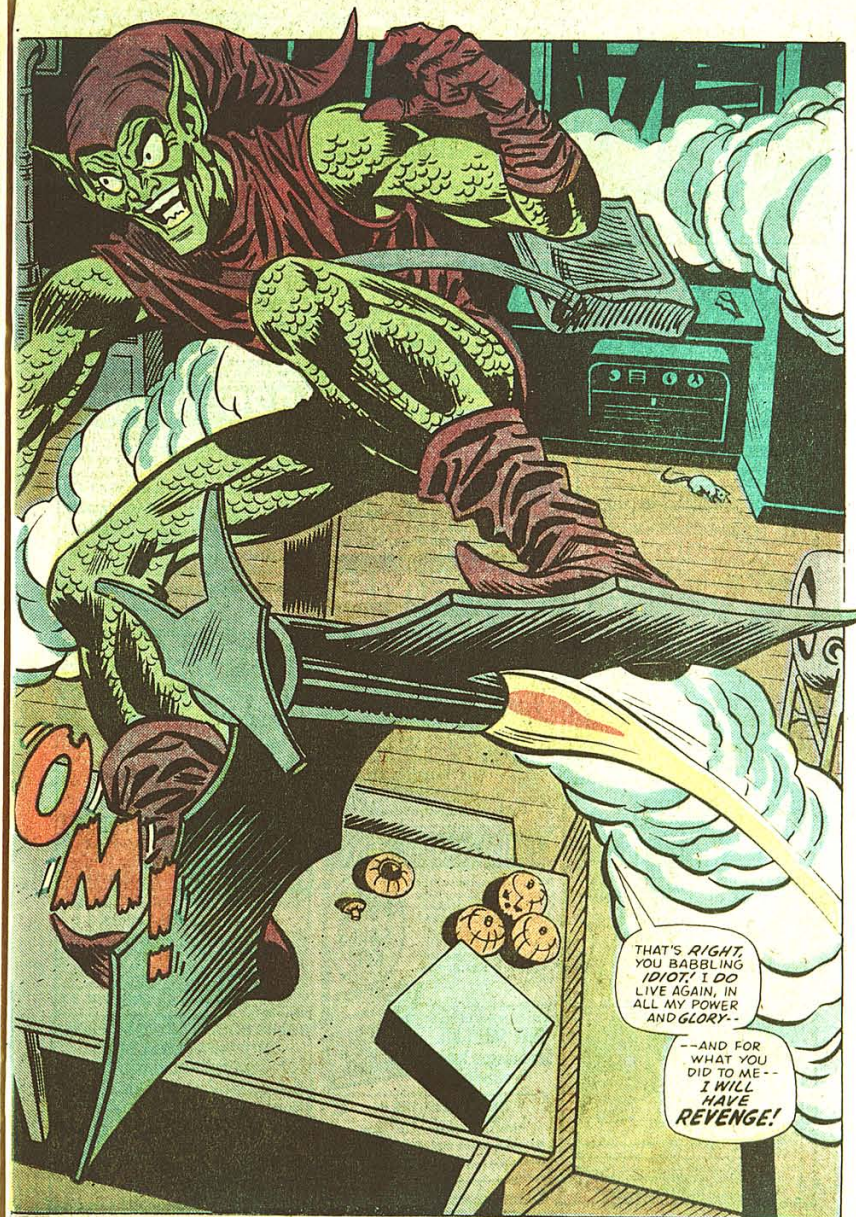


"A SOUND," THINKS SPIDER-MAN, "THERE'S SOMEONE MOVING AROUND IN THE NEXT ROOM...SOMETHING HISSING...A LOW MUTTER..."

"BRACE YOURSELF, BENEDICT..."



"...HERE COMES THE MOMENT OF TRUTH!"





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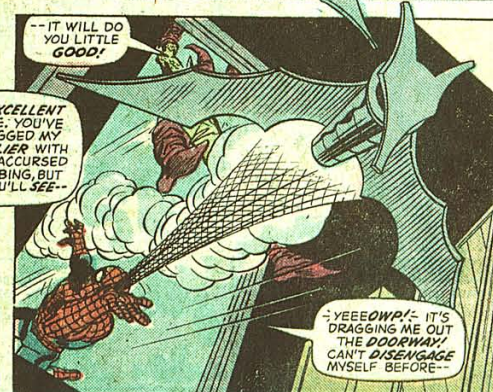
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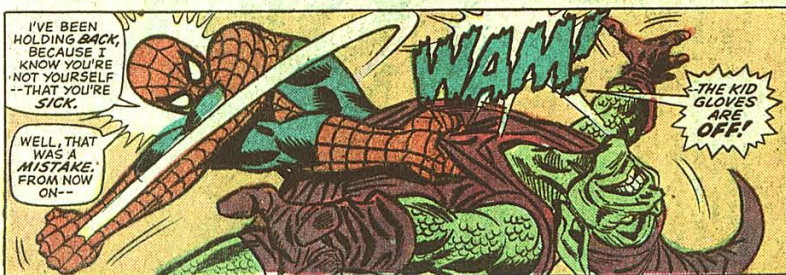
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STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Well, we did it! It seems that every month something happens here at Marvel which is even more exciting than the month before. Remember how we've been telling you over the years that comics can be — and indeed are — educational in many respects? Okay, you don't have to take our word for it any longer. Wait'll you hear this! There isn't one of you who doesn't know of the great work that Children's Television Workshop (Sesame Street and The Electric Company) has been doing in making youngsters more proficient in reading skills. Well, they've decided on a new project — the use of comic-books. And which company will they naturally work with? Aw, someone must have told you. Yep, even as you read these sententious sentences, the first fabulous issue of SPIDEY is being prepared, and will be on sale in a few short months. SPIDEY! It's a new kind of Spider-Man magazine, for the younger Marvelite, for your kid brother or sister — and it's a precedent-shattering co-production of mighty Marvel and CTW's Electric Company! But that's only half of it! You'll also be seeing your friendly neighborhood Spider-Man live on the Electric Company TV show all over the U.S.A.! Like we said, it's for the younger viewer, but it's Spidey in the flesh, and it's just the start of a whole new wave of Marvel excitement! Oh, and speaking of TV — I hope those of you in the Ohio area were able to catch the lively show aired over WBGU-TV and other stations on March 28th. Entitled "Comics: Birth of An American Art Form," it was produced by Bowling Green University's Department of Popular Culture and featured yours truly, in discussion and seminar. The theme dealt with comics as a legitimate intellectual activity, and my thanks to co-producer Mike Marsden and the rest of the gang for a job well done, so there you are — Marvel teamed with The Electric Company in a special project for the small fry — and Marvel covering the campuses like wildfire, bringing culture to academia! If there's any group we've missed, we'll grab 'em next time!

Excelsior!

Stan

And though Marvel's epoch-making team-up with the ever-lovin' Electric Company may be the icing on the cake for this month, we're not exactly standing still on other fronts, just the same! We've only got space to mention 'em

briefly on this page, but various special ads and announcements scattered thru most of our mixed-up mags for the next few weeks will relate the full, unfettered facts on the following:

ITEM! Marvel is going Ape! For months now, there've been whispers, rumors, and unsubstantiated reports, running rampant thru comics fandom. And, for once, the rumors turn out to be right: Debuting June 25th at your friendly neighborhood newsstand is a brand-new Marvel magazine, nothing less than — **THE PLANET OF THE APES!** That's right — one of the most popular movie series of all time, which has been shattering Nielsen ratings on the home-screen as well, will be lumbering your way six times a year, in a king-size new mag containing enough comics, photos, and features to drive the most avid Ape-lover up a tree in ecstasy! There'll be an action-packed retelling of the widely-heralded "Apes" films — articles on the stars, the makeup, and just about every other kind of behind-the-scenes activity — plus an all-new comic-strip sequel to the five fabulous flicks themselves, written by GERRY CONWAY and DOUG MOENCH, and drawn by MIKE PLOOG! This mind-bending mag costs a measly buck for 84 big pages — and is destined to set both film and comics buffs on their collective ear! That's **THE PLANET OF THE APES #1** — to be unleashed on June 25th, wherever magazines are sold! Get it, gorillaphile!

ITEM! We're introducing still another 84-page epic to you this month, too — as Conan the Barbarian, fresh from his triumphant return in SAVAGE TALES, hurtles from the pages of that mag into a new \$1 wonder titled — **THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN!** Artwork by BUSCEMA, SMITH, MAROTO, and others — scripts by ROY THOMAS (with, ad-

mittedly, a modicum of assistance from one ROBERT E. HOWARD) — all slashing your way on June 18th, on those self-same overstocked newsstands! 'Nuff said, by Crom!

ITEM! And, on the full-color front, there are two new 50¢ phantasmagorias coming your way, to boot! First, and not to be confused with the \$1 mag mentioned above, there's the **GIANT-SIZE CONAN #1**, as Roy teams up with GIL KANE and TOM SUTTON to produce some of the greatest Hyborian-Age hijinx ever — in living, lethal color! Secondly, there's the first issue of nothing less than — **GIANT-SIZE MASTER OF KUNG FU!** Shang-Chi, steel-smashing son of Fu Manchu, stars in a full-length all-new saga written by Doug Moench and drawn by one of fandom's newest delights, Peerless PAUL GULACY! Martial arts action — from cover to cover! More we gotta tell you?

AND, SPEAKING OF ITEMS: This last little tidbit isn't exactly chicken-fat, either! Yep, this is the month when the awesome, ultimate **MARVEL VALUE STAMP** will appear somewhere — sometime — in one (count 'em, one) of our colorful classics! Nope, we still won't tell you just which of our world-famous super-stars it features; we'll leave you the fun of finding that out for yourself, when you discover it starin' back at you from one of our litlin' letters pages! Don't miss it, though, 'cause it'll be featured once and once only all this year — and, next month (after a delay or twain), we'll be telling you a whole long list of comic-book stores, all across the land, where presenting your **MARVEL VALUE STAMPBOOK** chockful of all 100 Stamps will get you a galvanizin' FREE GIFT! We said it before, we'll say it again, and it's no hype: **VALUE** is Marvel's middle name!

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POSTSCRIPT:

THREE QUARTERS OF AN HOUR LATER, IN THE OFFICES OF THE DAILY BUGLE, AN IRATE PHOTOGRAPHER NAMED PETER PARKER HUNG AN ANGRY EXIT FROM J. JONAH JAMESON'S PRIVATE DEN.

I ASK HIM FOR A CRUMMNY LEAVE OF ABSENCE-- AND HE TELLS ME IF I WANT A WEEK OFF, I'M FIRED.

HE CAN'T FIRE ME... I QUIT!

MY, WHAT PUT YOU IN SUCH A FOUL MOOD? THE WAY YOU'RE ACTING, YOU'D THINK YOU JUST DISCOVERED MR. JAMESON'S SUNNY DISPOSITION.

REALLY, PETER-- WHAT'S WRONG?

EVERYTHING SEEMED TO BE GOING SO WELL FOR YOU LATELY...

WELL, FORGET IT. I'VE HAD IT TO HERE WITH PEOPLE BUTTING INTO MY BUSINESS.

FROM NOW ON, PETER PARKER GOES IT ALONE...

...AND BELIEVE ME, LADY... I WOULDN'T WANT IT ANY OTHER WAY.



...TUNE IN NEXT ISSUE FOR THE SECOND PART OF OUR TALE, TITLED:

SPIDER-MAN: RENEGADE!

IT'S JUST FOUR WEEKS AWAY, TIGER! CATCH IT IF YOU CAN!

LETTERS PAGE CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

she finally began to notice him, and when "notice" escalated to "chase after," Pete lost interest in her completely. And yet, at the time they parted, after high school graduation, there was a trace of feeling and friendship left between them.

On the matter of Mary Jane recognizing Liz, though... you're dead right, and we were dead wrong. That brief moment back in SPIDEY #25 was the only time they'd met previous to issue #132, and a couple dozen readers caught us on that one. We blew it. You get your no-prize.

Dear Marvel,

On the last page of SPIDER-MAN #132, in the last panel, we hear a desperately ill Peter Parker as, "Is this the end of Spider-Man?" He says this while he's in his Peter Parker identity. Does this mean Pete considers Spidey his true identity and Peter Parker of lesser importance? I'm not sure I like that. One of the things that made Spidey the best mag around was that Peter and Spidey led separate lives, both of which were essential to the storylines. There was always a fairly equal amount of both identities in each story. The reason that Gwen's death caused such an uproar was that Peter Parker's personal life played such an important part in the plots. I hope that just because Gwen is no longer here, you won't let Spidey take command of the mag and subject Pete to a secondary role. You have a winning formula. Don't blow it.

By the way, #132 was a great ish. It's good to see an old villain like the Molten Man come back. It looks like the Marvel Age of Comics is here to stay.

Grant Sherrill
Highland Hall #5
Bellingham, Wash. 98225

We hope so, Grant. Thanks.

As for that last line in ish #132...don't accord it too much importance in terms of Peter's self-concept or our concept of what the SPIDER-MAN mag is supposed to be. We suspect Gerry wrote the line that way (a) because it sounded more suspenseful than "Is this the end of Peter Parker?" and (b) because Pete had just come from, and was on his way to, a mission as Spider-Man. Spidey and the Molten Man were on Pete's mind at the moment, that's all. Okay?

Dear Folks,

SPIDER-MAN #132 was nothing short of fantastic. It really brought on a good feeling of deja vu, what with Molty

and Liz' back after about a 100-issue absence. It was also great to see John Romita's pencils again, even though I really like Ross Andru's work. It was just like Old Home Week.

Gerry, I would like to ask you to cut out the killing for a while. In the last eleven issues, you've wiped out Gwen, the Green Goblin, the Kangaroo, Hammerhead, and Doc Ock. Also, it looks like curtains for the Molten Man, whom I laughed at in #35 and felt pity for in #132. There doesn't seem to be any way for him to save himself, so he will go down the Big Dumper, too, I guess. What happened to just putting the bad guys in jail?

Finally, I would like to learn more about Mary Jane's background. She is most likely an orphan, since she used to live with her aunt, but nothing has ever been said about her parents. I would enjoy learning about Mary Jane's parents, as I'm sure a lot of others would.

Ed G. Omes
Box 208, Olson Hall
University of S. Dakota
Vermillion, S.D. 57069

And one of these days, when we have both room and a reason to do so, Ed, we'll get around to filling you in on the blank spots in Mary Jane's life (like the first twenty years or so!).

About the killing. We asked Gerry to stop. And he agreed. Sort of. He said, from now on, he'll only almost kill the villains; he'll turn them all into vegetables the way he did Franklin Richards in the FANTASTIC FOUR mag! (What do you do with a guy like that?)



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